

**Loan Recipient's Requirements for Solicitation and Documentation**  
**of**  
**Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Participation**  
**On State Revolving Fund (SRF) Projects**

A goal-oriented system has been established to promote **Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE)** participation by providing construction services, professional services, supplies, and/or equipment on SRF Loan-funded water and wastewater projects. It is the Loan Recipient's responsibility to ensure that Bidders make a good faith effort during the bidding phase to solicit for subcontractor participation by **DBE** subcontractors, service professionals, suppliers, and/or equipment vendors on all SRF-funded projects.

**DEFINITIONS**

**DBE - Minority Business Enterprise (MBE):** A qualified socially and economically disadvantaged minority-owned business certified by any State or Federal agency, such as the Tennessee Department of Transportation, U.S. EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, or the U.S. Small Business Administration.

**DBE - Women's Business Enterprise (WBE):** A qualified independent business at least 51% owned by a woman or women and certified by any State or Federal agency such as the Tennessee Department of Transportation, U.S. EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, or the U.S. Small Business Administration.

**Fair-Share Goals:** The MBE fair-share goal is 2.6% for construction and 5.2% for supplies, services, and equipment. The WBE fair share goal is 2.6% for construction and 5.2% for supplies, services, and equipment.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO LOAN RECIPIENTS**

**Pre-Bid Requirements**

Loan Recipients must include the SRF Loan Program's "Bidder's Requirements for Solicitation and Documentation of **DBE** Participation on SRF-Funded Projects" information sheet in the Information for Bidders section of bid documents. Loan Recipients must also ensure that Bidders take the following affirmative steps that constitute a good-faith effort to secure **DBE** participation:

- Include certified **DBEs** on solicitation lists whenever they are potential sources,
- Divide construction contracts into subcontracts, when economically feasible, to encourage maximum participation by **DBEs**,
- Establish delivery schedules, where requirements of the work permit, that encourage participation by **DBEs**,
- Use the services and assistance of the Office of Minority Business Enterprises of the U.S. Department of Commerce, or the U.S. EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. For assistance or information, Bidders may be referred to:

Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Small Business Development  
505 Deaderick Street, Suite 1800  
Nashville, TN 37243-0347  
(615) 741-3681

[http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/construction/DBE%20list/dbe\\_list.pdf](http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/construction/DBE%20list/dbe_list.pdf)

Mr. W. Clinton Smith, District Director  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
50 Vantage Way, Suite 201  
Nashville, TN 37228  
(615) 736-5881

<http://pro-net.sba.gov/>

Ms. Jeanette L. Brown, Director  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (1230A)  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
(202) 564-4100

<http://www.epa.gov/osdbu/>

**POST-BID REQUIREMENTS**

**Whether or not DBE participation was obtained**, the Loan Recipient must complete the "**Loan Recipient's Certification and Summary**" form for every contract detailing whether or not **DBE** participation of subcontractors, professional service providers, suppliers, and/or equipment vendors was obtained. The "**Loan Recipient's Certification and Summary**" form must be submitted to the Administrative Section of the SRF Loan Program prior to the award of any construction contract(s) along with the newspaper **advertisement**, a **Publisher's Affidavit**, and **return receipts** and copies of the **certified letters** that were mailed to a minimum of 10 qualified **DBEs**.

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**If DBE participation was obtained**, the “**Loan Recipient's Certification and Summary**” form must clearly indicate whether **DBE** participation was obtained from either a subcontractor, professional service provider, supplier, and/or equipment vendor participation; identify the **DBE** firm(s) to be used; and certify that the **DBE** firm(s) is a certified **DBE**. In addition to the “**Loan Recipient's Certification and Summary**” form, the Loan Recipient must include in the submittal to the SRF Loan Program, copies of the **Prime Contractor's Notice Letter for EPA Form 6100-2, EPA Form 6100-3, and EPA Form 6100-4**.

**If no DBE participation was obtained**, the Loan Recipient must submit a separate letter documenting that a “**good-faith effort**” was made to secure **DBE** participation. This letter is submitted along with the above-mentioned “**Loan Recipient's Certification and Summary**” form, newspaper **advertisement, Publisher's Affidavit, return receipts**, and copies of the **certified letters**. The SRF Loan Program provides a template to the Loan Recipient for this letter.

*This documentation is the only form of documentation that will be accepted by the SRF Loan Program. Failure to provide the required documentation may result in a delay of the SRF Loan Program's approval of the Authority-to-Award/Bid Package, thereby delaying the award of the construction contract(s).*

The Loan Recipient should direct all inquiries regarding the SRF Loan Program's requirements for **DBE** solicitation and documentation to Dr Bagher Sami at (615) 532-0445, [bagher.sami@state.tn.us](mailto:bagher.sami@state.tn.us), or the following address:

Dr. Bagher Sami, Manager  
Administrative Section  
Tennessee State Revolving Fund Loan Program  
L&C Tower, 8th Floor  
401 Church St.  
Nashville, TN 37243